

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY NEA:ALATHERTON,JR.:LAB

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY (PER SECTO 27132)

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TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 231271

NODIS

CHEROKEE - FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PA, US

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH PAKISTAN AMBASSADOR

1. SECRETARY, WITH ROBINSON AND ATHERTON PRESENT, RECEIVED PAKISTAN AMBASSADOR SEPTEMBER 11 TO REVIEW NUCLEAR FUEL REPROCESSING PLANT/A-7 ISSUES. YAQUB-KHAN'S PRESENTATION FOLLOWED SAME GENERAL LINES AS IN HIS EARLIER MEETING WITH ACTING SECRETARY.

2. PRINCIPAL POINT MADE BY SECRETARY WAS TO NOTE HIS IMPRESSION FROM TALK WITH BHUTTO IN LAHORE THAT, IF FRENCH WERE TO TAKE INITIATIVE TO PROPOSE MODIFICATION OF FRENCH-PAK AGREEMENT, PAKISTAN WOULD BE RECEPTIVE. SECRETARY ASKED YAQUB-KHAN TO CLARIFY WITH BHUTTO WHETHER THIS WAS ELEGANT WAY OF CLOSING DOOR TO ANY RECONSIDERATION OF FRENCH-PAK AGREEMENT, OR WHETHER IN FACT BHUTTO WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO SUCH A FRENCH PROPOSAL. SECRETARY NOTED THAT FRENCH HAD TAKEN SAME POSITION BHUTTO HAD; I.E., FRANCE COULD NOT TAKE INITIATIVE BUT IF PAKISTAN DID SO, THEY HAD GIVEN IMPRESSION THEY WOULD NOT HAVE A CLOSED

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MIND.

3. SECRETARY ALSO SAID THAT USG WOULD LOOK INTO QUESTION RAISED BY GOP OF SUPPLEMENTAL U.S. SAFEGUARDS ON PAKISTANI PLANT, THOUGH IT WAS UNCERTAIN THAT THIS DEALT WITH THE HEART OF THE ISSUE. SECRETARY AGREED WITH AMBASSADOR THAT ISSUES WERE POLITICAL RATHER THAN LEGAL (SYMINGTON AMENDMENT) OR ECONOMIC (ECONOMIC JUSTIFICATION FOR PLANT). ROBINSON

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